

# Town of Amherst Town Council Meeting Monday, October 21, 2019 6:30 p.m. Town Room, Town Hall 4 Boltwood Avenue

## **Minutes**

Complete video is available online: <a href="https://amherstmedia.org/content/amherst-town-council-october-21-2019">https://amherstmedia.org/content/amherst-town-council-october-21-2019</a>

## 1. Call to order and declaration of a quorum

President Griesemer declared the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Councilors present: Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, Swartz.

Councilors absent: None

Councilors participating remotely: None

Others present: Assistant Town Manager David Ziomek, Principal Assessor David Burgess, Assistant Superintendent of Public Works Amy Rusiecki, Clerk of the Council Athena O'Keeffe

President Griesemer announced audio and video recording by Amherst Media.

#### 2. Announcements

- **Master Plan Public Forum:** October 28 5:00 p.m. Primer on the Master Plan, 6:00 p.m. Public Forum to Address the Master Plan Town Room, Town Hall
- Four Boards: November 7 Time and Location to be announced.
- State of the Town Address: December 2 5:30 p.m., followed by a Regular Town Council Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Town Room, Town Hall
- Four Towns Meeting: December 7 9:00 a.m. Amherst Regional Middle School Library

# 3. Hearings

# **Tax Classification Public Hearing**

A full presentation of the Town Council Tax Classification Information Session is available online at: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rzF2G4ClFTO&feature=youtu.be">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rzF2G4ClFTO&feature=youtu.be</a>

President Griesemer opened the public hearing.

Principal Assessor David Burgess explained the tax rate options, and the Board of Assessors and Town Manager's recommendation to the Council.

Councilors questions:

Councilor Hanneke asked about the effect of adopting a split rate on the calculation of a tax override.

Councilor DuMont asked how other communities protect low-income residents from passed-on costs after adopting a split rate. D. Burgess responded that most communities split the tax rate between residential and commercial, the residential versus commercial split in Amherst is 90% residential versus 10% commercial, similar communities are 70% residential and 30% commercial.

Councilor Schoen stated that if the Town were to consider a split rate, the Council could ask to study the potential effects over the year before adopting.

Councilor Pam asked about the residential exemption for an owner-occupied home with a rental unit. D. Burgess responded that the exemption policy would apply to any owner-occupied house, including those that included rental units.

Councilor Bahl-Milne commented that the towns with the split rates worked because the commercial revenue is high. Amherst is 90/10 residential/commercial rather than 70/30 like those communities.

Councilor Swartz asked about impact to farmers. D. Burgess responded that it would impact farmers if we adopted a commercial exemption.

Public questions, comments in favor or opposed to the proposed classification: none

President Griesemer declared the hearing officially closed.

# Agenda item 7.a.(1) Tax Classification

**MOTION:** Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor De Angelis, to adopt a minimum residential factor of one, equal tax rate for all classes of properties for Fiscal Year 2020 and that no open space discount be granted.

**VOTED** Unanimously to adopt a minimum residential factor of one, equal tax rate for all classes of properties for Fiscal Year 2020 and that no open space discount be granted.

**MOTION:** Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor De Angelis, to not adopt a Residential Exemption for Fiscal Year 2020.

**VOTED** 12-0-1 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont Abstained) to not adopt a Residential Exemption for Fiscal Year 2020.

**MOTION:** Councilor De Angelis moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to not adopt a Small Commercial Exemption for Fiscal Year 2020.

**VOTED** 12-0-1 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont Abstained) to not adopt a Small Commercial Exemption for Fiscal Year 2020.

## Agenda item 7.b. Centennial Water Treatment Facility Borrowing Authorization

Councilor Steinberg stated the Finance Committee voted 5-0 to recommend the borrowing authorization. The watershed area in Pelham is an extremely valuable resource to the Town and it cannot be used without the water treatment facility being brought back online. Failure to act jeopardizes the security of our water supply. Question about possibility of solar. Per the net zero energy bylaw, there is an exemption for process energy, which can be unpredictable. The facility proposed for Centennial will use a lot of energy for process. If the goal is to build a plant in time to use the permit, we do not want to do anything to risk that goal. There are several other aspects that are uncertain in timing, interconnection to the grid with solar, and this is in Pelham and permitting would go through Pelham—if there is opposition it could delay the process. In consultation with the Town Manager, the Town will assess the readiness of the land for solar during the design phase of the process, but the Council may vote tonight to issue the order so that plans may proceed.

Councilor Schoen asked about the effect of adding solar to the engineering cost, and about making an official request to include the option. A. Rusiecki responded that there have been conversations with the design firm about the possibility of adding solar, and that during the design phase we can ask those questions to see how it will impact the design of the roof et cetera.

Councilor Bahl-Milne asked about net zero readiness. A. Rusiecki responded that that would be addressed during the design phase.

Councilor DuMont commented that the Energy and Climate Action Committee (ECAC) will come forward with recommendations about this type of project, and that we need to look at innovative possibilities such as batteries and micro-grids.

**MOTION:** Councilor Pam moved, second by Councilor Brewer, in terms of Town Council Order number FY20-23.

Councilor Brewer asked about inclusion of the enterprise fund in the order language.

**VOTED** Unanimously, as amended, in terms of Town Council Order number FY20-23.

# 4. General Public Comment

Amy Zuckerman, an Amherst resident of 117 Brittany Manor Drive, thanked Amherst Police for saving her life, spoke about her experiences with difficulty finding housing after her arrest, and fire safety.

### 5. **Proclamations and Commemorations -** *none*

#### 6. Presentations and Discussion

#### a. Proposed Approach to Four Major Capital Investments

President Griesemer presented the proposed approach with changes since it was last presented. Based on Councilor feedback, the proposal is to initiate listening sessions with the community, presentation and Council discussion of proposed plans, timelines, and next steps for each investment in Jan/Feb 2020. The first round of Council decisions regarding the proposed plans would be in Feb/Mar 2020, and Draft and adoption of initial capital investment plan Apr/Jun 2020.

President Griesemer explained the recommended approach phases.

#### Council discussion:

Councilor DuMont commented that she continues to have issues with the process, that the whole capital budget should be part of the community conversations, expressed concerns about the long term commitment to the projects, the impact of the climate goals, and the small sample size of respondents.

Councilor Bahl-Milne suggested outreach at the library or schools to reach a broader section of the community.

Councilor Pam commented that at a district meeting over the weekend, people were in support of the projects.

President Griesemer stated that in terms of climate action, the real driver is the net zero buildings bylaw. The ECAC may recommend goals that are more specific. The issue of not being a valid sample, people who are motivated will respond, it is very difficult to come up with a valid sample of residents.

Councilor Ryan commented that we are approaching this from a sense of genuine need. The need is real, whether we can afford to do all these things is a question that we must wrestle with. There should be some sense of cost and options, and the cost of doing nothing. We need to inform and articulate the need and cost of doing nothing and what we think the cost will be and then listen. Do not want to start the whole conversation over or pretend that we are neutral.

Councilor Bahl-Milne we need to be clear about the purpose of the meetings, and that will determine what sort of information we are providing and what questions we ask. One question is how people use those facilities. How are you affected by the projects and affected by taxes.

Councilor Ross echoed Councilor Ryan's comments, and added that we need to hear what the community is thinking about the projects. The initial listening session is taking the pulse of what the community knows and how we can get on the same page.

Councilor De Angelis expressed concerns that we have not successfully gotten all of the community involved. Typically, the same people respond to surveys, and we need to hear new voices. Open up the sessions, perhaps by moving out into the community to be more inclusive.

Councilor Brewer commented that if we do not agree about the projects, we should not be engaging. There have been studies about how people use services, all those assessments have been done. Need to continue outreach, but libraries and schools have already conducted significant outreach.

Councilor Pam spoke in opposition to outreach during November and December, due to the holidays.

Councilor Schoen commented about the content of the presentation material, to have a well thought-out package.

Councilor Ross spoke about the concerns with timing, and stated that the Council's first conversation and framing would benefit from having that conversation sooner.

Councilor Ryan suggested a dry run of the presentation.

President Griesemer stated that the Town cannot afford to start four projects in this Council's first term, but we cannot do nothing. The dry run of the presentation will be on November 18 or we can schedule a special meeting.

President Griesemer spoke about the meetings of the steering committee and the plans for preparing materials.

Councilor Brewer commented that the choice of facilitator is dependant upon what questions the Council is asking the community.

Councilor DuMont commented that capital requests should be presented at the same time. President Griesemer responded that the coming year's capital requests are not complete yet.

Councilor Hanneke spoke in opposition to the inclusion of capital requests in the presentation; the Council needs to figure out a timeline and plan for which projects will require a debt override. Ongoing capital needs may be affected by the number, but to bring in potential capital investments will derail the conversation that we need to be able to come up with the plan for the four big investments. There is a place for that later when we talk about how the plan will affect the rest of the budget. Need to figure out if people are willing to pass an override because that will have a big impact on the plan.

Councilor Pam commented that we need to make sure people know that there will be continued investment in capital expenditures.

Councilor Steinberg commented that he is hesitant to show the model because it is confusing, but there is a visible line that is the 10% that is capital. The line is our ability to do what our current capital plan does. Hoping for a sense of what our constituents think about it. Councilor Brewer added that we do not devote 10% of the budget to capital, the goal of 10% is not realistic. Councilor Steinberg responded that that is correct, back in 2008-2010 we took money away from capital to make sure we had enough police officers and firefighters on the street during the last recession, the Town has struggled to get to that 10% goal.

Councilor Ross stated that roads and sidewalks should not be part of this presentation. If we hear questions about roads and sidewalks over and over, that is good to know. Every additional slide diminishes the likelihood that someone will watch the presentations. A singular plan is needed to address the four investments.

Councilors discussed the need to reach consensus about the projects and plan, that votes and approvals for each project will be addressed individually.

**MOTION:** Councilor Steinberg moved, second by Councilor Swartz, that the sense of the Council is that the Council is committed to a plan that will address all four buildings in some fashion.

**VOTED** 12-1-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont Voted No) that the sense of the Council is that the Council is committed to a plan that will address all four buildings in some fashion.

**MOTION:** Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor Ross, that the Council move forward with the recommended approach document with acknowledgement that the Steering Committee modify the approach as necessary.

**VOTED** 12-1-0 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont voted No) that the Council move forward with the recommended approach document with acknowledgement that the Steering Committee modify the approach as necessary.

## 6.b. Amherst Bylaw Review Committee Schedule

Councilor Ross the Bylaw Review Committee has been working to bring the bylaws to conform to the charter. The committee is ready to bring their proposed changes. Will repeal and replace the bylaws, the proposed timeline with action dates is in the packet. On November 5, the Bylaw Review Committee will send the draft of new bylaws and a report that will detail the work that the committee completed. The council will take a week to send feedback by Tuesday November 12. In November the committee will take feedback, make changes, and respond to questions. The revised bylaws and report will be presented on December 10. First read will be December 16 and second read in January. Council comments are due to Geoff Kravitz by Tuesday November 12. The report will explain all changes. The materials will also include a crosswalk document that explains where bylaws are now versus where they were in the previous bylaws.

#### 7. Action Items

#### c. Rule 8

Councilor Ryan reported the recommended modifications of Rule 8 from the Governance, Organization, and Legislation (GOL) Committee.

Councilor Pam suggested that two councilors be sponsors.

Councilor De Angelis spoke in favor of one sponsor.

Councilor Schoen commented that she appreciates the alternate route to petitions is included.

Councilor DuMont commented that it is not people-friendly.

Councilor Hanneke responded that GOL has an FAQ document that is easier to read than the Council's 30-page rules. The FAQ does indicate the easiest and quickest way, along with alternate means.

**MOTION:** Councilor Ryan moved, second by Councilor Ross, that the following revisions to Town Council Rules of Procedure Rule 8 be made:

- 1. Add a new paragraph to the end of Rule 8.1.a.: "Proposed resolutions, proclamations, commemorations, or citations shall be introduced either by a Councilor sponsor or by group petition or initiative petition as described in Charter Sec. 8.2(b), 8.3, and 8.5.";
- 2. Insert after Rule 8.2.e. a new Rule 8.2.f and relabel Rule 8.2.f. and g. as 8.2.g. and h. respectively:

"Resolutions, Proclamations, Commemorations and Citations: All resolutions, proclamations, commemorations, and citations complying with Rule 8.1.a shall be automatically referred to the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee. The President shall notify the Council of the referral at the next regular Council meeting.";

- 3. Insert the phrase "commemorations, citations," into Rule 8.4 after the phrase "Except for resolutions, proclamations";
- 4. Add a new paragraph to the end of Rule 8.6:

"Resolutions, Proclamations, Commemorations, and Citations: The Council shall not vote on any proposed resolution, proclamation, commemoration, or citation until it has been considered by the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee."; and

5. Update the Table of Contents Pagination, if necessary.

**VOTED** Unanimously that the following revisions to Town Council Rules of Procedure Rule 8 be made:

- 1. Add a new paragraph to the end of Rule 8.1.a.: "Proposed resolutions, proclamations, commemorations, or citations shall be introduced either by a Councilor sponsor or by group petition or initiative petition as described in Charter Sec. 8.2(b), 8.3, and 8.5.";
- 2. Insert after Rule 8.2.e. a new Rule 8.2.f and relabel Rule 8.2.f. and g. as 8.2.g. and h. respectively:

"Resolutions, Proclamations, Commemorations and Citations: All resolutions, proclamations, commemorations, and citations complying with Rule 8.1.a shall be automatically referred to the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee. The President shall notify the Council of the referral at the next regular Council meeting.";

- 3. Insert the phrase "commemorations, citations," into Rule 8.4 after the phrase "Except for resolutions, proclamations";
- 4. Add a new paragraph to the end of Rule 8.6:

"Resolutions, Proclamations, Commemorations, and Citations: The Council shall not vote on any proposed resolution, proclamation, commemoration, or citation until it has been considered by the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee."; and

5. Update the Table of Contents Pagination, if necessary.

# 7.d. GOL Charge

**MOTION:** Councilor Ryan moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to revise the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee charge, as recommended by the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee, per the document titled "GOL Charge Revised5-22-2019 and 2019-08-15."

**VOTED** 12-0-1 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilor DuMont Abstained) to revise the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee charge, as recommended by the Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee, per the document titled "GOL\_Charge\_Revised5-22-2019 and 2019-08-15."

#### 7.e. Ad Hoc Committees

Councilor Ryan stated that GOL proposed that 10.5 be deleted, and Ad Hoc committees be given the qualities of work groups. The proposed rule 10.4 includes ad hoc council committees.

Councilor Brewer commented that she wanted work groups to be formed by the committees themselves, the proposed changes are completely different from committees forming work groups themselves.

Councilor Schoen commented that the new proposal loses some of the intent of the original work group idea.

Councilor Ryan responded that item b tries to capture that idea. Item c includes non-councilors as members. It is helpful for us to know what other committees are doing.

Councilor DuMont stated that it would be nice if committees could set up ad hoc committees themselves.

Councilor De Angelis agreed that the requirement that the President make appointments slows things down.

Councilor Bahl-Milne commented that an advantage is that people from outside the committee could be appointed.

## 7.f. Proposed 2020 Town Council Calendar

**MOTION:** Councilor Brewer moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to approve the proposed 2020 Town Council meeting schedule, as amended.

**VOTED** Unanimously to approve the proposed 2020 Town Council meeting schedule, as amended.

# 8. Appointments

### a. Confirmation of Town Manager Appointments [Charter, Sec. 2.11(b)]

# (1) Council on Aging

Councilor Ross the Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee (OCA) voted unanimously to recommend the Town Manager's appointments.

**MOTION:** Councilor Ross moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to approve the following Town Manager appointments to the Council on Aging, effective immediately, as recommended by the Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee report of October 21, 2019:

- For a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022:
  - o Rosemary Kofler (reappointment)
  - o Ivette Palacin
- For a two-year term to expire June 30, 2021:
  - Sue Dierks
  - o Patricia Rector
  - John Wollensak

**VOTED**: Unanimously to approve the following Town Manager appointments to the Council on Aging, effective immediately, as recommended by the Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee report of October 21, 2019:

- For a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022:
  - o Rosemary Kofler (reappointment)
  - o Ivette Palacin
- For a two-year term to expire June 30, 2021:
  - Sue Dierks
  - o Patricia Rector
  - o John Wollensak

# (2) CPAC

Councilor Ross said OCA was scheduled to vote to recommend on October 28 but the meeting was cancelled. If the Council wants to take action, the committee discussed the appointments but the Town Manager was not present and OCA sent questions in advance and received responses. Conversation about the memo and responses provided sufficient information. What are the skills the person brings to the body to be successful. OCA voted 3-2 to recommend that the Town Council take no action, in which case the appointments go into effect on November 13. The OCA vote was not a reflection on the individuals appointed, merely a process dispute.

Councilor Pam commented that she understands the reasoning but does not want to do something that casts a shadow on these appointees.

Councilor Hanneke spoke in favor of voting to approve or not voting.

Councilor De Angelis commented that she is disturbed by the Town Manager's responses.

**MOTION:** Councilor Schreiber moved, second by Councilor Ryan, to approve the following Town Manager appointments to the Community Preservation Committee, effective immediately:

- For a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022:
  - Nate Budington (reappointment)
  - Sam MacLeod
- For a two-year term to expire June 30, 2021:
  - o Diana Stein (reappointment)

Councilors discussed the options of approving the appointees, rejecting the appointees, or taking no in order to send a message to the Town Manager to provide more information about applicants.

Councilor Steinberg and Schoen spoke in favor of the motion.

Councilors Steinberg, Schoen and Schreiber spoke about giving feedback to the Town Manager at a more appropriate time.

President Griesemer spoke in favor of the motion, and explained the circumstances leading up to the cancellation of the regular meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup>, the Town Manager's appointment memo had been released and there was not a meeting in November in time for approval of these appointments.

Councilor Brewer stated that it is important for the community to see why recommendations are made, and the Town is not providing enough information to the community about appointees.

**VOTED:** 8-4-1 (Councilors Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont and Swartz voted No; Councilor Bahl-Milne Abstained) to approve the following Town Manager appointments to the Community Preservation Committee, effective immediately:

- For a three-year term to expire June 30, 2022:
  - Nate Budington (reappointment)
  - o Sam MacLeod
- For a two-year term to expire June 30, 2021:
  - o Diana Stein (reappointment)

## b. MGL CH 268A §19(b)(1) Exemption Request

President Griesemer explained that two people on the Planning Board have some relationship to Amherst College but the Planning Board cannot vote without these members. We as a council would need to agree that the interest is not substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of the services, which the municipality may expect from the Planning Board members.

Councilor Brewer stated that there is no question, based on the Town attorney's opinion and reading, that the exemption would be for only this project.

Councilor Schoen commented that this feels like a substantial conflict of interest, and that it would be preferable to appoint another Planning Board member.

Councilor Hanneke stated that, as a former abutter, the abutters are not near the proposed changes to the field; the fields in question are three fields away from Mr. Levenstein's property.

Councilor Schreiber stated that if the Planning Board takes no action, the Town loses its voice regarding the project.

Councilor Brewer the members are stating that they are able to act with integrity.

Councilor Hanneke spoke in support of the exemptions.

### (1) Planning Board Member Maria Chao

**MOTION:** Councilor Ross moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, that the Town Council has made a written determination under MGL Chapter 268A Section 19(b) that the financial interest is not so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of the services which the municipality may expect

from Planning Board member Maria Chao in the matter of SPR2020-02 - Amherst College - Athletic Field Renovation - 212 Northampton Road.

**VOTED** 11-0-2 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilors DuMont and Schoen Abstained) that the Town Council has made a written determination under MGL Chapter 268A Section 19(b) that the financial interest is not so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of the services which the municipality may expect from Planning Board member Maria Chao in the matter of SPR2020-02 - Amherst College - Athletic Field Renovation - 212 Northampton Road.

# (2) Planning Board Member David Levenstein

**MOTION:** Councilor Ross moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, that the Town Council has made a written determination under MGL Chapter 268A Section 19(b) that the financial interest is not so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of the services which the municipality may expect from Planning Board member David Levenstein in the matter of SPR2020-02 - Amherst College - Athletic Field Renovation - 212 Northampton Road.

**VOTED**: 11-0-2 (Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted Yes; Councilors DuMont and Schoen Abstained) that the Town Council has made a written determination under MGL Chapter 268A Section 19(b) that the financial interest is not so substantial as to be deemed likely to affect the integrity of the services which the municipality may expect from Planning Board member David Levenstein in the matter of SPR2020-02 - Amherst College - Athletic Field Renovation - 212 Northampton Road.

# 9. Committee Reports

- a. Audit Committee no report
- b. Bylaw Review Committee no further report
- c. **Community Resources Committee** Councilor Hanneke stated that the committee will have a written report for the next Council meeting with feedback about the housing policy.
- d. **Council Goals Ad Hoc Committee** President Griesemer stated that the committee met last week, had an initial discussion about broad goals, and added one more around sustainability. The committee will meet again next week.
- e. **Finance Committee** Councilor Steinberg stated that the committee will meet tomorrow, and will discuss the financial consequences of the proposed housing policy and the percent for art bylaw. Following those items, the committee will begin work on the regional school budget process.
- f. **Governance, Organization, and Legislation Committee** Councilor Ross stated the committee is working to bring a recommendation on liaisons.
- g. Outreach, Communications, and Appointments Committee no further report
- h. **Percent for Art Bylaw Ad Hoc Committee** Councilor Schoen stated the committee working through a revision, incorporating input from staff.

### 10. Approval of Minutes

#### a. October 7, 2019

**MOTION:** President Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Hanneke, to approve the minutes of October 7, 2019, as presented.

**VOTED** 9-0-4 (Councilors DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Schreiber, and Steinberg voted Yes; Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, and Swartz Abstained) to approve the minutes of October 7, 2019, as presented.

## 11. Town Manager Report

Assistant Town Manager David Ziomek spoke about Town projects including Groff Park improvements, the dog park, Kendrick Park, and Hickory Ridge.

### 12. Town Council Comments

President Griesemer thanked Leisure Services and Jennifer Moyston for their work on the Fall Festival and Councilors' outreach efforts. The Council will hear the Energy and Climate Action Committee recommended goals and possibly Hickory Ridge on November 18. The Council will address parking after the Transportation Advisory Committee makes their report to the Council.

# 13. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the President 48 Hours in Advance

Councilors discussed the logistics of voting on the Net Zero Stretch Code municipal support and Carbon Pricing legislation letters.

Councilor De Angelis spoke in support of both.

Councilor Pam spoke about financial implications.

Councilor Ross commented about the lack of time for consideration.

Councilor DuMont spoke in support of both items.

#### b. Zero energy

**MOTION:** Councilor Hanneke moved, second by Councilor De Angelis, that the Town Council waive the requirements of rule 8.6 for the Net Zero Stretch Code municipal support letter.

Councilors commented that the motion is too rushed, that it would be better to have time to read the materials before decide.

**VOTED:** 4-8-1 (Councilors De Angelis, DuMont, Hanneke, and Schoen voted Yes; Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schreiber, Steinberg, and Swartz voted No; President Griesemer Abstained) that the Town Council waive the requirements of rule 8.6 for the Net Zero Stretch Code municipal support letter. The motion failed.

## c. Carbon pricing – no action taken

# 14. Executive Session – none

Alhena O'kee De

### 15. Adjourn

MOVED: Councilor Griesemer moved, second by Councilor Pam, to adjourn.

**VOTED** unanimously to adjourn at 10:37 p.m. on October 21, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Athena O'Keeffe Clerk of the Council

## **Record of Agenda Packet Materials and Documents Presented**

- 0. 10-21-2019 FINAL Town Council Agenda
- 0. Draft Motions for Town Council 10-21-2019

2020 Town Council Regular Meeting Schedule approved 10-21-2019

- 3. 10-21-2019 Tax Classification Presentation
- 6.a. Capital Investments PROPOSED phases and timelines
- 6.a. DRAFT Plan for Approaching the Capital Projects as of 10-12-19
- 6.a. Recommended Approach Regarding the Capital Projects as of 10-21-19
- 6.a. Summary of responses re Capital Plan REVAMP
- 6.b. BRC Schedule and Deadlines for Town Council 10-21 meeting
- 7.b. 9.e. Finance Committee report 10.21.19 with orders 20-23 and 20-26
- 7.c. 7.d. 9.f. 2019-10-02 GOLReport to Town Council
- 7.c. Council Rules of Procedure-revised 2019-09-09 Proposed 2019-09-11 GOL Revisions to Rule 8
- 7.c. Proposed Revisions to Town Council Rules of Procedure Slides for 2019-09-23 TC Meeting
- 7.c. Resolutions, Proclamations, Citations and Commemorations FAQ 10-1-2019
- 7.d. GOL Charge Revised5-22-2019 and 2019-08-15
- 7.e. Rule 10.4 Ad Hoc Council Committees Adopted by GOL 10-02-2019
- 7.f. Proposed 2020 Town Council Regular Meeting Schedule 10-11-2019
- 7.f. Town Holidays incl religious 2020
- 8.a. 13.a. 2019-10-21 OCA Report to Town Council SUPPLEMENT
- 8.a.1. Council on Aging Appointments 10-01-2019
- 8.b. FW Amherst Planning Board Conflict of Interest
- 8.b. inst-19-munic-financial-interest-new Instructions 268A Section 19
- 8.b. MGL Chapter 268A Section 19 Ethics disclosure financial interest
- 8.b.1. 8.b.2. Planning Board Conflict of Interest Exemption Request
- 9.g. 2019-10-21 OCA Report to Town Council
- 10. 10-07-2019 DRAFT Town Council Minutes
- 10.4 Ad Hoc Council Committees SLIDE1
- 13. Forwarding email from MCAN Zero Energy Stretch Code

- 13. Supporting the Benson Bill for Climate Pollution Pricing
- 13.a. Community Preservation Committee Appointments 10-15-2019
- 13.a. Community Preservation Committee Appointments Answers to OCA Questions
- 13.b. Net Zero Stretch Code Municipal Support Letter
- 13.c. Carbon Pricing Legislation